

THINK MOVIE 'PONZI'S' ARREST NEAR

Police on Trail Of Former Convict As a Swindler

By BRENT MARK

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While the creditors of Dr. Edmund Gaston Camille de Regnier, author of million dollar movie bubbles, today awaited his apprehension The GRAPHIC checked up on the activities of this modern Munchausen since his release on parole from Sing Sing last spring. Police believe his arrest is near.

Although he was successful in deceiving some of the shrewdest men in New York business houses, the slow-talking doctor had few genuine tricks up his sleeve, but he worked them wherever he resided. Immediately after his exchange of the striped uniform at Ossining for conventional street attire, Dr. Regnier departed for New York and comfortably ensconced himself in a luxurious apartment on the third floor of a house at 17 West 85th St.

Gives Draft for Rent

He made no bones about the required rental of \$175 a month, and unhesitatingly presented the landlord with a draft for \$300 on the Humboldt National Bank, California. The draft came back after two weeks marked "No funds."

Dr. Regnier was promptly invited to move out—which he did. But in the meantime he had swindled a grocer out of \$25 of merchandise and found time to start his proposed organization of a super motion picture company, with Peggy Udell as a star. As a



Dr. Regnier



Peggy Udell

preliminary, he established there an art-casting studio, and every girl applicant was required to pose for a plaster cast for exploitation purposes, as the wily doctor explained.

It was there that pretty Beatrice C. Thomas, motion picture actress, came to look for a job, had her face oiled and a plaster of paris cast made and then unceremoniously asked whether she would be willing to live in a \$400 apartment to be kept up by Dr. Regnier for her and her chum. She refused.

The Doctor Moves

After he had been politely told to evacuate, Dr. Regnier transferred his operations to 421 Madison St., Brooklyn. There he succeeded in remaining more than three months. Evans Rustin, Brooklyn real estate man and owner of the house, still is waiting for his rent.

Last Saturday he issued checks for several thousand dollars and disappeared. Sergt. George T. Magee of the Mercer Street station is working on the case, and Dr. Regnier's apprehension is expected soon.

FINED ON HER GOWNS

Mrs. Carolyn Wells Houghton has just paid a customs fine of \$416 on valuable Parisian gowns which she brought in the other day without declaring them. Mrs. Houghton was under the impression that the apparel, having been worn by her, was not dutiable.

Hollywood Typhoid Report Following Storm Untrue

HOLLYWOOD, FLA., Oct. 1.—The health of Hollywood has been maintained through the prompt and efficient work done by the Citizens Committee—not one case of typhoid has been reported—and greater Hollywood plans are now well under way. Hundreds of carpenters are roofing homes and repairing other buildings and 1,500 laborers are gathering up and burning debris.

Hollywood suffered damage to the extent of \$5,000,000. Two months will be required to make the necessary repairs. This is an expert valuation of the property damages based on a careful check-up of every building in the city. The survey shows 3,029 houses, business blocks, shacks and other buildings were damaged. The most common injury was smashed roofs and shattered windows.

The casualty list is thirty-seven dead, 7 missing and 300 injured.

The damage done to buildings of the Joseph W. Young Companies including the hotel is estimated at \$1,000,000 of which \$470,000 is covered by insurance. The hotels of Hollywood suffered damages as follows: Hollywood Beach, \$400,000; Parkview, \$40,000; Great Southern, \$20,000 and Hollywood Hills Inn, \$20,000. City buildings were damaged to the extent of \$55,000.

The amount of salvage is much greater to those who suffered loss than first believed. It is a common occurrence for a property owner who was fully expected to find his home a complete loss now finds that his insurance will cover his loss. Houses are being re-roofed at the rate of 500 a day.

Mail deliveries began Monday and mail carriers report that they were able to make deliveries to 50 per cent. of the business addresses and 70 per cent. of the homes.

About 2,000 persons have left Hollywood since the storm. The majority of them were women and children, who will return as soon as their homes are made habitable.

Joseph W. Young, president of the seventeen Joseph W. Young Companies, announced today that an aggressive campaign to bring even more tourists to Hollywood this fall and winter than originally planned, is well under way. The six Hollywood hotels will be much better equipped for the season's business than last year.

Society Women Take Interest In Shop Girl

While the first moves were being made toward organizing the 10,000 shop girls in the 5th Avenue district into a union, the probability of a strike of 10,000 paper box makers, long threatened, became stronger.

Society women who patronize the 5th Avenue shops are taking an interest in the shop girls, according to Juliet Stuart Payntz, organizer for the Fifth Avenue Ladies' Tailors' Union, and a group including Susan Brandeis, daughter of the Supreme Court justice; Evelyn Preston, Mrs. Joseph Flade and Mrs. Gordon Norris is investigating conditions.

Miss Payntz was arrested for the second time in a week (and discharged) for distributing handbills to the shop girls announcing a meeting in Bryant Hall.

CONSUL TO SAIL

Lewis Berners, British Consul at New York, is sailing tomorrow for a vacation in England.

Ice Skating

The season is here! Indoor skating with the atmosphere of winter. Music. Contests in plain and figure skating. Prizes. Instruction. Wonderful fun and healthful exercise at the

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8 inch-top shoe. Sizes 1 to 9, with 13 to 15 inch runners, depending on size of shoe. Aluminum finish. \$7.45 Nickel plated. \$9.45

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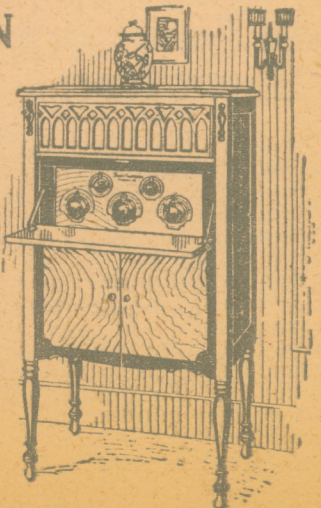
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